

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING PENNSYLVANIA PARAMEDIC OF THE YEAR BRETT FADGEN

**HON. JASON ALTMIRE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 17, 2007*

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Brett Fadgen, the 2007 Pennsylvania Paramedic of the Year. Not only is Mr. Fadgen an EMS Paramedic Rescue Technician for the Ross and West View communities, he also flies with Stat MedEvac, serves as a trained firefighter for his local fire department, and teaches at the Community College of Allegheny County. He is truly a model representative of the thousands of paramedics who serve in Pennsylvania, and I was pleased to learn that the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council awarded him with this great honor on August 18.

Mr. Fadgen became an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) at the age of 17 after volunteering with the local emergency medical service. Upon graduating from Gannon University with a Bachelor of Science degree, he attended school to become a paramedic. In 2002, Mr. Fadgen moved with his family to Ross Township, Pennsylvania and has served the community as a paramedic ever since. Recently, Mr. Fadgen obtained his nursing degree from Duquesne University and accepted a position as a Registered Nurse for UPMC Presbyterian. Although he has taken on a new role in the community, Mr. Fadgen remains committed to continuing his work as a paramedic on a part-time basis.

I am honored to recognize Mr. Fadgen's outstanding accomplishment of becoming the 2007 Pennsylvania Paramedic of the Year. His incredible achievements are just one example of the extraordinary work being accomplished by paramedics across the nation. On behalf of my family and the Fourth District of Pennsylvania, I extend our thanks and eternal gratitude to Mr. Brett Fadgen for his continued commitment to our community.

A TRIBUTE TO SAM JOHNSON

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 17, 2007*

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to an extraordinary educator from my home district in California. Samuel Johnson Jr. has retired following four decades of service to students. Remarkably, for 39 of those years, Sam Johnson was employed at the San Mateo Union High School District, with the final three years as its Superintendent.

A native of Louisiana, Sam Johnson struggled against and rose above the racial challenges of his generation. His career displays a shining light of perseverance and profes-

sionalism, offering a pioneering example for all races.

Yet let me say, Madame Speaker, that Sam Johnson's legacy is his devotion to young people, his determination that every student should have the ability to excel, to achieve and ultimately to find success in higher education.

His first job as a teacher was in his home state of Louisiana, and his eventual move to the San Mateo Union High School District after that first year began a lengthy tenure of dedication at the district he would call home for four decades.

Beginning his career as a math teacher, Sam Johnson went on to hold nearly every administrative position in the district. His responsibilities ranged through the years from being the Director of Human Relations for the entire San Mateo Union High School District to being Assistant Principal and then Principal of Capuchino High School, where he was successful in acquiring a prestigious Carnegie Grant. He later served as Director of Personnel, Associate Superintendent for Human Resources and Administrative Services and finally, Superintendent of the District, overseeing seven schools.

Madam Speaker, I would like my colleagues to know that Sam Johnson will be remembered for his commitment to the advancement of young people from all walks of life. His innovative pursuit of an Academic Core Curriculum, guaranteeing that every student would be taking classes geared to success in college, was just one example of helping everyone realize educational dreams. He combined that vision with a push for seven periods in the school day, giving students the opportunity to benefit from additional elective classes. He also spearheaded a school year calendar change that more effectively linked the end of academic classes with holiday vacations. These changes, which required political and administrative strength to achieve, highlight much of Sam Johnson's talents and vision. His success at reaching these goals provided more academic opportunities for the students in his care. I am proud to say that the San Mateo Union High School District has reported successively improving student scores in recent years, something universally desired in any educational environment.

Madam Speaker, Samuel Johnson Jr. deserves respect and appreciation for an educational career focused on improving the opportunities and experiences of young people attending public school. He faced many challenges during his tenure, specific to the San Mateo Union High School District as well as relating to society in general. He met those challenges with dignity and what many of his colleagues described as class, while never wavering from the dream he held as a young teacher in Louisiana; a dream of helping students find the path to realizing their own hopes and dreams.

Madam Speaker, I want to wish Samuel Johnson Jr.; his wife, Della; and children Brad and Shana, happiness in his retirement and

congratulations on his four-decade career in education.

JACOB ADAM HENDRICKS

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 17, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Adam Hendricks, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 261, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob Adam Hendricks for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARTIN SAVIDGE

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 17, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Martin Savidge for his 27 years of service to the American public, through his role as a news anchor and national correspondent for many prominent news networks.

Martin, who is currently a correspondent with NBC News, does regular reporting for NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams, the Today Show, and MSNBC. Prior to NBC, Martin was a news anchor and a national correspondent for CNN, based at the network's world headquarters in Atlanta.

Martin graduated from Rocky River High School and earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from Ohio University. He began his broadcast career as an anchor and reporter for WCIA-TV in Champaign, IL in 1980. He then moved on to work as the prime-time anchor for WMBD-TV in Peoria, IL. Martin also worked as a reporter for the Associated Press, as well as a special projects reporter and anchor for WJW-TV in Cleveland.

Following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, Martin reported from New York City's Ground Zero on the search and rescue mission and the ongoing recovery efforts. In 2003, Martin delivered on-the-ground coverage of the crises in Iraq as one of CNN's embedded journalists. Martin most recently served as NBC's primary correspondent in New Orleans,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.